

Dr. Jordan Peterson

He's already inspired the world. But Jordan Peterson is just getting started.

DailyWire+



Dr. Genevieve Guenther
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One of the most powerful English professors of the past 40 years stole an argument I made in a seminar presentation, turning it into the core of his next book.

The week after my presentation, he came into the classroom and...

1/n

Megan McArdle

@asymmetricinfo · [Follow](#)

I'm almost as astonished at folks asking "Why do you care that the President of Harvard is a plagiarist, if the thefts were minor" as I was at folks asking "Why do you care if the President of the United States is threatening to arrest journalists, if he hasn't actually done it?"

5:28 PM · Dec 22, 2023

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...and he read a conference paper he was going to deliver at the Shakespeare Association that month, re-articulating exactly what I had said about the same material the week before. The 15 or so grad students around the seminar table were dumbfounded. Jaws on the floor.

2/n

It was the classic Trumpy move: do something illegal, but be so blatant about it, trusting that your power gives you immunity, that somehow committing the criminal act manages to normalize it simultaneously.

3/n

I will say, proud of my early-20-something grad-student self, that I went up to him after the seminar and said "I think we may have a problem." To which he responded: "oh no, there's no problem. Hamlet is a big enough play for us both to work in. Give me a hug." And then...

4/n

He proceeded to wrap me into his arms and give me a full-body, pelvis-to-pelvis hug, which of course made me freeze, Jean E Carroll style, and then just smile weakly at him when he let me go, patted me on the shoulder, and breezed off down the hallway.

5/n

At post-seminar drinks that evening (the class would always go out for beers after), the other grad students, still shocked, kept asking me what I was going to do. I think I just shrugged it off, because I soon decided that I would just let him have my idea.

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6/n

I had chosen Berkeley over other graduate programs not just because it was the best in my field, but also because this guy was there and I wanted him to be my dissertation supervisor. If I had to give him one of my ideas so that he would see I was smart, so be it.

7/n

Yes, I realize that this is abject and not the way it works, and the whole story is a symptom of pre-#Metoo workplace politics, but I had no power and he had all the power and I thought he was brilliant. (I want to hug my first-year grad student self. 🤔)

8/n

Anyway, the seminar went great, although I wasn't able to publish the paper that came out of it because, well, this professor had already circulated my argument. But again, I thought his plagiarism was a down payment I was making on an investment which would bring big returns. 😏

And he did favor me all year, in various ways. But then, over the summer, it was announced that he was leaving for Harvard. Which he must have known all along. But of course never told me, leading me on all the while.

I never spoke to him again.

10/n

Since then I've heard from many trustworthy sources that this guy has plagiarized arguments from multiple graduate students both at Berkeley and Harvard — AND that his (second) wife got the topic of her second book from one of her graduate students's seminar papers.

11/n

Again, the person I'm talking about is perhaps the most celebrated scholar in the field — and a hugely successful crossover author. And EVERYONE KNOWS HE'S A PLAGIARIST.

12/n

So if there are any doubts over double standards—comparing one white professor stealing whole arguments to a black grad student repeating banal phrases, performing "scholarliness," in her fucking acknowledgements, which are not even ideas—let this anecdote help put them to rest.

The right is going after Gay because they don't want the kids at Harvard to have any sort of an anti-racist education and they're not even trying to hide it. DON'T FALL FOR IT, FFS. Support Gay. Support DEI. Support anti-racism.

whatever the number is now, I forget / n

And, yes, US right-wing politics are so dangerous right now that I feel like I have to defend the president of fucking *Harvard*, which is absurd, but that's the power of today's white supremacists, to make *Harvard* a bastion of racial sanity. What a time to be alive.

fin/


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In in Hualien County a private 6ha butterfly reserve is being used to also grow indigo plants, which were a major cash crop until about a century ago. Underneath the trees indigo plants provide food and shelter for the butterflies: excess indigo leaves are harvested and sold.

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Oct 25

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Today @WilliamJRipple et al released the 2023 report on the terrifying state of our #climate. It should be read by every policymaker, decisionmaker, and journalist on the planet. Here is a thread of some key takeaways. 1/n

"Unfortunately, time is up."

"The rapid pace of change has surprised scientists and caused concern about the dangers of extreme weather, risky climate feedback loops, and the approach of damaging tipping points sooner than expected." 3/n

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Oct 10

Here is fossil fuel companies' new defense in lawsuits accusing them of deceiving the public about climate change: They perpetrated no deception, they say, because the "alleged impact of fossil fuel use on the global climate has been ‘open and obvious’ for decades." 1/n

They're calling us stupid, you know. 2/n

I really love the contradiction between the claim that the impact of fossil fuel use on the global climate is "open and obvious" and the adjective "alleged," in "alleged impact." Talk about wanting to have it both ways! Is the impact obvious, or is it "alleged"? 3/3

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Aug 13

I'm lucky enough to be reading an advance copy of @MichaelEMann's new book. It is really fascinating! Mann acts like the Virgil to the reader's Dante, taking us on a deep tour of past uninhabitable climates to reveal wild facts about science & our possible futures. 1/n

Eg. did you know that during the Pliocene, CO2 concentrations were btwn 380 & 420 ppm, yet the planet was much warmer than climate models project for such concentrations today? Mann shows why this is the case, and why seas were much higher than models project too. 2/n

Read 4 tweets



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Aug 1

Some climate scientists, including the new @IPCC_CH chair @JimSkeaIPCC, have recently been working overtime to disprove inaccurate claims by "doomers." This comms strategy ignores the actual data about the electorate in top 15 emitting countries & is therefore misguided. 1/n

As you can see from this 2022 @YaleClimateComm survey, only minorities in most top-emitting countries are "alarmed," which is to say only minorities of the electorate understand that climate change is "happening, human-caused, and an urgent threat." 2/n

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So, I dug into @RogerPielkeJr's claim that the @IPCC_CH has "concluded" that a climate signal beyond natural variability will NOT emerge by 2100 for many big impacts, & guess what? (You'll never guess!) The self-appointed "honest broker" is misrepresenting the science. THREAD

Pielke centers his claim on AR6 WGI Table 12.12, which shows the "confidence" scientists have that a climate signal has emerged or will emerge in a particular region. White signifies "low confidence" of an emerging signal. There is a lot of white in this Table. 2/n

Pielke argues that all this white demonstrates that the IPCC has "concluded" (definitively) that a "signal of climate change has not yet emerged beyond natural variability" for most big impacts (like fire weather), AND... 3/n

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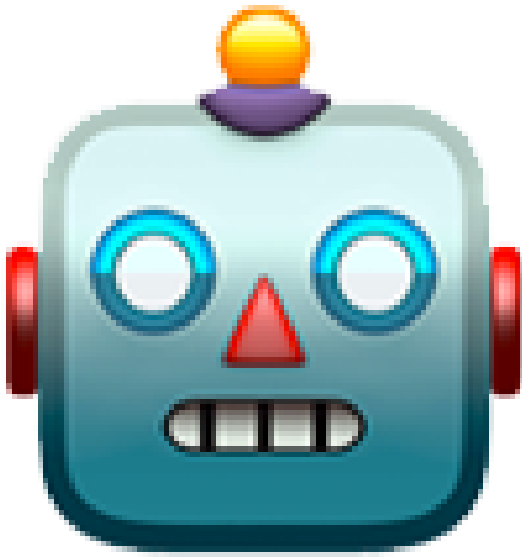
Jun 29

Some people say that the wealthy world will normalize climate deaths the way we've normalized Covid deaths. But I don't agree. Here's why: 1) Covid deaths are not getting exponentially worse. And we expect them to eventually drop, no? But the number of climate deaths... 1/n

... The numbers of people dying from the direct and indirect effects of #ClimateChange will continue to rise until the world phases out fossil fuels and halts global heating. That's not like Covid. 2/n

2) The US economy can continue to function even at the levels of Covid sickness and death we're currently seeing. But (and sure people disagree about this, BUT) global heating will have direct and punishing effects on food prices, labor productivity, consumer spending... 3/n

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